

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

assigning a private network-network interface (PNNI) peer group identification to a device to be coupled with an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) network based on a manufacturer of the device and a product group to which the device belongs; and

auto-configuring the device at a point of manufacture with an ATM address using the assigned PNNI peer group identification.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the PNNI peer group identification includes a two bit field indicating manufacturer.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the PNNI peer group identification includes a four bit field indicating product group.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the ATM address includes a switch identification field identifying a switch to which the device will be connected or a default switch.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the switch identification field can be altered at a point of installation.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the switch identification field consists of a media access control (MAC) address.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the switch identification

field consists of six bytes.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the ATM address includes a device identification field unique to the device.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the device identification field can be altered at a point of installation.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the device identification field consists of a media access control (MAC) address.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the device identification field consists of six bytes.

22. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable storage medium tangibly embodying a sequence of instructions executable by a machine to perform a method comprising:

assigning a private network-network interface (PNNI) peer group identification to a device to be coupled with an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) network based on a manufacturer of the device and a product group to which the device belongs; and auto-configuring the device at a point of manufacture with an ATM address using the assigned PNNI peer group identification.

23. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22, wherein the PNNI peer group identification includes a two bit field indicating manufacturer.

24. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22, wherein the PNNI peer group identification includes a four bit field indicating product

group.

25. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22, wherein the ATM address includes a switch identification field identifying a switch to which the device will be connected or a default switch.

26. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the switch identification field can be altered at a point of installation.

27. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the switch identification field consists of a media access control (MAC) address.

28. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the switch identification field consists of six bytes.

29. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22, wherein the ATM address includes a device identification field unique to the device.

30. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein the device identification field can be altered at a point of installation.

31. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein the device identification field consists of a media access control (MAC) address.

32. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein the device identification field consists of six bytes.

Claims 33-43 (Canceled)